



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
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DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

November 30, 2009

The Honorable Deval L. Patrick
Governor of Massachusetts
State House
Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick,

In accordance with Executive Order 496, Section 1(d), the Governor's Interagency Council on Substance Abuse and Prevention has developed the corresponding annual report for 2009, which includes the activities of the Council and recommendations to continue the Council's efforts and fulfill resource needs.

The Interagency Council on Substance Abuse and Prevention consists of members representing a number of state agencies. Through the Council, the participating agencies have created a strong partnership to review and develop strategies for substance abuse prevention and treatment and also react to the needs and issues of those afflicted with substance abuse disorder in the Commonwealth.

Yours truly,

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor

William D. Luzier
Executive Director
Governor's Interagency Council on
Substance Abuse and Prevention

Governor's Interagency Council on Substance Abuse and Prevention 2009 Annual Report

In accordance with Executive Order 496, the Governor's Interagency Council on Substance Abuse and Prevention (ICSAP), chaired by Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray, met four times and the Executive Committee met six times in 2009.

Substance Abuse Strategic Plan - Update

In May 2005, following a two-year process, the Substance Abuse Strategic Plan for the Commonwealth (Plan) was promulgated. In January 2009, Lieutenant Governor Murray directed the ICSAP to carry out an update to the Plan.

Working with Michael Botticelli, Director of the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) at the Department of Public Health, the ICSAP held a series of meetings to solicit input and recommendations to update the plan. Additionally, the full Council and the Executive Committee of the ICSAP each held two meetings during the year. During this process, managers at BSAS were regularly consulted in addition to consultation of stakeholders at meetings in Boston and Western Massachusetts and a special criminal justice stakeholders' conference that was convened in Framingham.

As a result of many meetings, reviews, and discussions, substantive and constructive suggestions will be incorporated into the updated plan, which will be submitted to the Council at its January 2010 meeting.

Advisory Function

The ICSAP is often designated as the advisory committee for federal grant applications related to substance abuse. Two active grants that were reviewed by the ICSAP in 2009 include MASBIRT (Massachusetts Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment) and MassCALL 2 (Massachusetts Collaborative for Action Leadership and Learning). CASA START (Striving Together to Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows), another program, remains active in two Massachusetts municipalities, but is no longer federally funded.

MASBIRT

MASBIRT was established in 2006 with a federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the United State Department of Health and Human Services. Located at and administered by the Boston Medical Center, the goal of MASBIRT is to offer screening for alcohol and substance abuse in primary and emergency care settings. If a patient screens positive as a "harmful user," they are offered brief intervention relating to their substance use. If a patient screens positive for abuse or dependence, they are offered treatment. In the MASBIRT program, the screening and interventions are done by Health Promotion Advocates.

The overarching goal of these programs is to integrate screening for alcohol and substance abuse into all general medical settings with intervention and treatment as indicated. Since the program's inception, over 70,000 patients have been screened by MASBIRT in a variety of settings including emergency departments and community health centers. MASBIRT is entering the fourth year of a five year grant cycle. MASBIRT is one of several SBIRT programs across the Commonwealth.

MASBIRT made a presentation to the ICSAP Executive Committee in May 2009. MASBIRT also made a presentation to the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) in June 2009 with the anticipation that health insurers who participate in the GIC could be required through contract to authorize the use of reimbursement codes for providers. The Executive Director of the ICSAP attended monthly meetings of MASBIRT's Leadership Team and attended two MASBIRT grantee meetings.

Mass CALL 2

MassCALL 2 is a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant from SAMHSA. The grant is distributed to 15 communities across the Commonwealth with a mandate to fashion a local response to prevent/reduce fatal and non-fatal opioid overdoses. The funding was awarded to the communities based on *inter alia*, population, incidence of opioid overdoses, need, and current resource availability. Cities participating are Gloucester, Lynn, Lowell, Quincy, Cambridge, Fall River, New Bedford, Brockton, Worcester, Springfield, Revere, and several neighborhoods in Boston (Charlestown, South End, South Boston, and Jamaica Plain/Roxbury). MassCALL 2 is in its third year of a five-year grant cycle.

Communities have developed local coalitions of police and criminal justice agencies, first responders and emergency medical technicians, users and bystanders to address the fear of contacting 911 and educate and train on the prevention and reversal of opioid overdoses. Communities have also worked in conjunction with Narcan (opioid overdose reversal medication) pilot programs which have reversed over 300 overdoses.

MassCALL 2 made a presentation to the ICSAP Executive Committee in May 2009. The Executive Director of the ICSAP attended regular meetings of MassCALL 2 leadership and a gathering of all local coalitions in November 2009.

CASA START

CASA START (Striving Together to Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows) is an intensive community based case management intervention program for high-risk middle school-aged students (8 – 13 year olds) devised by the Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. Originally funded through Safe and Drug Free Schools funds and subsequently through the U. S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and finally through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, seven Massachusetts communities (Holyoke, Quincy, Lynn, Fitchburg, New

Bedford, Boston and Winthrop) were recipients of CASA START resources, serving approximately 240 families.

Funding expired in the five original sites in June 2009. DPH continues to fund sites in Boston and Winthrop. The Executive Director of the ICSAP visited the two remaining sites in May 2009. A CASA START presentation was made to the ICSAP Executive Committee in November 2009.

The Department of Youth Services is implementing an innovative CASA START model for youths in their charge, a first in the nation implementation for this age group (13 to 17 year olds), in Dorchester, Roxbury, Springfield, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lynn, and Salem.

Recovery High Schools

Massachusetts is a national leader in the recovery high school program. In 2006, through the leadership of the ICSAP and grant funding from BSAS, three Recovery High Schools were established. Recovery High Schools are alternative, multi-service secondary schools for students with substance abuse and dependence problems. Massachusetts has three of these schools in Beverly, Boston, and Springfield. In addition to offering a full academic program that leads to high school graduation, the schools also incorporate numerous service components to support a student's commitment to recovery.

The Recovery High Schools made a presentation to the ICSAP Executive Committee in June 2009. The Recovery High Schools hosted visits by Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, in June 2009, and Kevin Jennings, Assistant Deputy Secretary of the U. S. Department of Education, in October 2009. The Executive Director of the ICSAP chairs monthly meetings with the principals and administrators of the Recovery High Schools.

In 2009, legislation passed to now require payment by the student's home district for out-of-district students attending a Recovery High School.

Interagency Collaborations

Regular weekly telephone conferences are held to discuss criminal justice collaboration and grant opportunities among the ICSAP, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Mental Health, Department of Youth Services, and the University of Massachusetts.

A Section 35 Operations Interagency Group consisting of representatives from the ICSAP, DPH, DMH, Probation, and DOC meet monthly to discuss issues related to 30-day civil commitments of substance abusers deemed by the Court to be danger to themselves or others at facilities in Brockton, New Bedford and Bridgewater.

The Family Recovery Collaborative, consisting of the ICSAP, DPH, DMH, and the Department of Children and Families (DCF), met regularly in 2009 to support and

expand programs offered in-home drug counseling and other services to DCF involved families.

The Executive Directors of the Councils chaired by Lieutenant Governor Murray, including the Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness, the Advisory Council on Veteran's Services, the Council to Address Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, and the ICSAP, meet bi-weekly to confer on issues of mutual concern and develop integration plans for programs.

OxyContin/Heroin Commission

The Executive Director of the ICSAP was appointed to the OxyContin/ Heroin Commission, a legislative commission charged with investigating and reporting possible mitigation for the alarming increase in opioid overdose deaths and opioid addiction. The 14 member Commission held seven public hearings in Boston (2), Salem, Fall River, Pittsfield, Worcester, and Hyannis. Each hearing focused on a specific area of substance abuse. The Commission issued its report with extensive recommendations on November 5, 2009.

Other Activities

In January, the ICSAP considered the impact of the decriminalization of an ounce or less of marijuana as mandated by a November 2008 referendum. In July, both Gail Garinger of the Office of the Child Advocate and Project S.A.V.E (Statewide Advocacy for Veterans Empowerment) presented to the ICSAP.

The Executive Director of the ICSAP has visited adult and adolescent treatment providers in Boston, Worcester, Springfield, Brockton and Beverly throughout the year. He has also spoken at conferences sponsored by Spectrum Health Systems, Massachusetts Organizations for Addiction Recovery, the Massachusetts Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors, the Springfield Leadership Forum on Substance Abuse and the Department of Youth Services. He has also testified before the General Court's Joint Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

Further Efforts and Resource Needs

In accordance with Executive Order No. 496, Section 1(d), below are recommendations for "further efforts and resource needs":

Recommended Further Efforts:

- Create a subcommittee of the ICSAP consisting of representatives from Criminal Justice including Sheriffs, District Attorneys, the Attorney General, as well as the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, the Alcohol Beverage Control

Commission and Criminal Justice members from the ICSAP to convene regular meetings.

- Maximize resources for prevention and treatment services for young adults attending college and those of college age.
- Foster the use of “social media” and other internet technologies to enhance awareness of prevention and treatment services and programs.

Recommended Resource Needs:

- Maintain the mandated federal maintenance of effort level for funding support of prevention and treatment programs. With current challenging economic conditions and during the Commonwealth’s road to economic recovery, limited resources are available. Recognizing such, support for prevention and treatment services should at least be maintained at the mandated federal maintenance of effort level. If not maintained at this level, these programs will be in peril of losing matching federal funding, essentially doubling the negative impact of budget cuts.
- Continue to collaborate with partnering agencies to maximize federal grants, when possible.
- Continue to support family services that help families navigate the treatment system so they can best support their loved ones who suffer from the disease of addiction.
- Work to maximize resources devoted to jail diversion and offender reentry and work to minimize the “criminalization” of substance abuse disorders.

New Leadership

Pursuant to Executive Order 496, Section 2, Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray appointed William D. Luzier as the Executive Director of the ICSAP on September 29, 2008. This annual report is the first submitted annual report by this Executive Director.